

## §0.91

## 47 CFR Ch. I (10–1–00 Edition)

outside the Commission on matters relating to equal opportunity and workplace diversity.

[61 FR 2727, Jan. 29, 1996]

### COMMON CARRIER BUREAU

#### §0.91 Functions of the Bureau.

The Common Carrier Bureau develops, recommends, and administers policies and programs for the regulation of services, facilities and practices of entities which furnish interstate communications service or interstate access service for hire—whether by wire, radio or cable—and of ancillary operations related to the provision of such services (excluding public coast stations in the maritime mobile services and multi-point and multi-channel multi-point distribution services and excluding matters pertaining exclusively to the regulation and licensing of wireless telecommunications services and facilities). The Bureau also develops, recommends, and administers policies and programs for the regulation of rates, terms and conditions under which communications entities furnish interstate communications service, interstate access service, and (in cooperation with the International Bureau) foreign communications service for hire—whether by wire, cable or satellite. The Bureau also performs the following functions:

(a) Advises and makes recommendations to the Commission, or acts for the Commission under delegated authority, in matters pertaining to the regulation and licensing of communication common carriers and ancillary operations (other than matters pertaining exclusively to the regulation and licensing of wireless telecommunications services and facilities). This includes: Policy development and coordination; adjudicatory and rule making proceedings, including rate and service investigations; determinations regarding lawfulness of carrier tariffs; action on applications for service and facility authorizations; review of carrier performance; economic research and analysis; administration of Commission accounting and reporting requirements; compliance and enforcement activities not otherwise within the responsibility of the Enforcement Bureau; and any matters

concerning wireline carriers that also affect wireless carriers in cooperation with the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

(b) Collaborates with representatives of state regulatory commissions and with the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners in cooperative studies of common carrier and related matters.

(c) Advises and assists the public, other government agencies and industry groups on wireline common carrier regulation and related matters. Also assists the Consumer Information Bureau with informal consumer complaints and other general inquiries by consumers regarding wireline common carrier regulation and related matters.

(d) Exercises such authority as may be assigned or referred to it by the Commission pursuant to Section 5(c) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

(e) Obtains from carriers and from persons directly or indirectly controlling or controlled by, or under direct or indirect common control with, such carriers full and complete information necessary to enable the Commission to perform the duties and carry out the objectives for which it was created.

(f) Carries out the functions of the Commission under the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, except as reserved to Commission under §0.291.

(g) Acts jointly with the Office of Engineering and Technology on applications for registration of equipment to be directly connected to the telephone network, and acts on complaints brought by any party concerning the registration or operation of such equipment.

(h) Administers the Telecommunications Service Priority System with the concurrence of the Enforcement Bureau, and resolves matters involving assignment of priorities and other issues pursuant to part 64 of this chapter.

(i) Acts upon matters involving telecommunications relay services complaints and certification.

(j) Develops, in coordination with the Office of Plans and Policy, policies for the selection of licenses from mutually exclusive applicants in the Common Carrier Service subject to competitive

bidding; issues Public Notices announcing auctions for Common Carrier Service Licenses; specifies the licenses to be auctioned; the deadlines for filing short-form applications, filing fees, and submission of upfront payments; the time and place of the auction; the method of competitive bidding to be used; competitive bidding procedures including, but not limited to, designated entity preferences, applicable bid submission procedures, upfront payment requirements, activity rules, stopping rules, and bid withdrawal procedures.

(Secs. 4, 303, 48 Stat., as amended, 1066, 1082; 47 U.S.C. 154, 303)

[39 FR 28435, Aug. 7, 1974]

EDITORIAL NOTE: For FEDERAL REGISTER citations affecting §0.91, see the List of CFR Sections Affected in the Finding Aids section of this volume.

#### CABLE SERVICES BUREAU

##### §0.101 Functions of the Bureau.

The Cable Services Bureau develops, recommends and administers policies and programs with respect to the regulation of services, facilities, rates and practices of cable television systems and with respect to the creation of competition to cable systems, and with respect to video programming services provided by other multichannel video programming distributors and multichannel video programmers. The Cable Services Bureau advises and recommends to the Commission, or acts for the Commission under delegated authority, in matters pertaining to the regulation and development of cable television and other multichannel video programming services. The Bureau also performs the following functions:

(a) Administers and enforces rules and policies regarding:

(1) Cable television systems, operators, and services, including those relating to rates, technical standards, customer service, ownership, competition to cable systems, broadcast station signal retransmission and carriage, program access, wiring equipment, channel leasing, and federal-state/local regulatory relationships. This includes: acting, after Commission assumption of jurisdiction to regu-

late cable television rates for basic service and associated equipment, on cable operator requests for approval of existing or increased rates; reviewing appeals of local franchising authorities' rate making decisions involving rates for the basic service tier and associated equipment, except when such appeals raise novel or unusual issues; acting upon complaints involving cable programming service rates except for final action on complaints raising novel or unusual issues; evaluating basic rate regulation certification requests filed by cable system franchising authorities; periodically reviewing and, when appropriate, revising standard forms used in administering; the Commission's complaint process regarding cable programming service rates; the certification process for local franchising authorities wishing to regulate rates, and the substantive rate regulation standards prescribed by the Commission;

(2) Access to poles, ducts, conduits and rights-of-way and the rates, terms and conditions for pole attachments, when such attachments are not regulated by a state and not provided by railroads or governmentally or cooperatively owned utilities, and complaints involving access to or rates, terms and conditions arising from pole attachments, except for final action on complaints raising novel or unusual issues;

(3) Open video systems;

(4) Preemption of restrictions on devices designed for over-the-air reception of television broadcast signals, multichannel multipoint distribution service, and direct broadcast satellite services;

(5) The commercial availability of navigational devices;

(6) The accessibility of video programming to persons with disabilities; and

(7) Scrambling of sexually explicit adult video programming by multichannel video programming distributors.

(b) Plans and develops proposed rulemakings and conducts studies and analyses (legal, engineering, social and economic) of various petitions for policy or rule changes submitted by industry or the public.